

61. Sparrows F

TRAITS: Small birds with stout, cone-shaped bills, most are brown on the back and light underneath, many have streaks on the breast.

HABITAT: Tall shrub thickets, forest edges.

FOODS: Mainly seeds of groundcover plants and tall shrubs; also, insects that live on these plants.

EATEN BY: Sharp-shinned hawks, merlins, hawk owls, shrikes; shrews, squirrels; weasels prey on eggs and young.

"GEE WHIZ": Sparrows often use hair from moose or feathers from other birds to line their nests.



62. Redpolls *

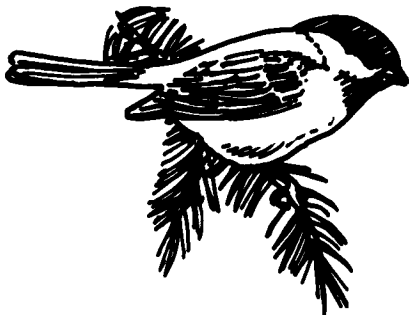
TRAITS: Small bird with red cap; stout, cone-shaped bill.

HABITAT: Tall shrub thickets, mixed hardwood-conifer forests; nest in alder or willow shrubs; also nests in alpine and lowland tundra areas with low shrubs; winters in boreal forest.

FOODS: Mainly seeds and buds of willow, aspen, birch, alder, and other tundra and forest plants; also insects.

EATEN BY: Merlins, boreal owls, short-eared owls, jaegers, sharp-shinned hawks, shrikes; weasels, foxes, and squirrels may prey on eggs.

"GEE WHIZ": Redpolls wander over large areas of tundra and boreal forest in search of places with abundant food; they often burrow into snow drifts to avoid cold and wind.



63. Black-capped and Boreal Chickadees F

TRAITS: Small gray to brown bird with thin bill, long tail, dark cap and chin.

HABITAT: Chickadees require trees with holes; boreal chickadees need mature to old boreal forest; black-capped use hardwood or mixed forest.

FOODS: Mainly insects from leaves, bark, or branches (thrips, moths, butterflies, lacewings, flies, wasps, spiders, etc.); also seeds and berries.

EATEN BY: Any small hawk or owl, shrikes.

"GEE WHIZ": Chickadees require dead trees with nest holes made by woodpeckers or fungi.